

From: Judd, Grady <GJudd@polksheriff.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 10:13 AM
To: Tom Wheeler
Subject: FCC Order

ACCEPTED/FILED

MAR 25 2014

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing in regards to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) *Order* that will adversely impact county jails within Polk County as well as throughout the state of Florida. I seek your help in correcting this situation. Specifically, in the FCC's *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services* (ICS) (WC Docket No. 12-375), issued on September 26, 2013, the FCC has reduced the rate that can be charged for interstate inmate calling services in both prisons and jails by establishing arbitrary rules that fail to take into account the unique challenges inherent in providing telephone privileges to inmates.

The FCC *Order* imposes unrealistically low rate caps that limit the ability of ICS providers to recover costs of administering services in smaller, higher cost facilities. As a result of the FCC's "one-size-fits-all" approach to ICS, many jails may be forced to severely limit or altogether eliminate inmate telephone privileges.

In addition to covering the costs of the ICS, jails can use any remaining funds from the ICS through the Inmate Welfare Fund to provide services and programming to inmates. As budgets have been shrinking, jails are able to use these funds to offset the costs of providing inmates vocational and educational programming. By capping ICS rates, jails will no longer be able to offset this portion of their budget, and as such, other subsistence fees may have to be raised in order to continue to provide inmate services and programming.

Therefore, I am seeking your support on this issue. I request that the ICS *Order*, referenced above and scheduled to go into effect February 11, 2014, be STAYED as it applies to Sheriffs and jails. I greatly appreciate your assistance.

Sincerely,

Grady Judd
SheriffNo. of Copies rec'd _____
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